

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of) Examiner: Unknown
SAINT-GOBAIN CERAMICS &)
PLASTICS, INC.)
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National Stage Entry)
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Appln. No. PCT/US03/17994,)
June 9, 2003)
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Filed: Herewith)
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For: **CERAMIC PACKING**)
ELEMENT)
)
Attorney Docket No.:) Cleveland, OH 44114-2518
FLCZ 2 00362-3) December 10, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with the United States Patent and Trademark Office OG Notice dated 05 August 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, Applicant(s) has not enclosed copies of the cited U.S. patents and applications with this Disclosure.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, the enclosed require(s) no further explanation (or no translation is available).

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph(s) indicated below is respectfully requested:

WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING: Under § 1.97(b)(1), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION: Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT: Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

BEFORE FINAL ACTION/WITH FEE: Under § 1.97(c)(2), this information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action if accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$180.00 as required by §1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement. Any overpayment or deficiency can be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

PRIORITY CLAIM: The attached PTO 1449 Form includes all patents, publications, or other information previously cited by or submitted to the Office in one or more prior applications from which the present application claims priority. These one or more prior applications are identified in the papers accompanying the filing of this application. In accordance with § 609 MPEP, only copies of art not previously submitted are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

FAY, SHARPE, FAGAN,
MINNICH & MCKEE, LLP

December 10, 2004
Date

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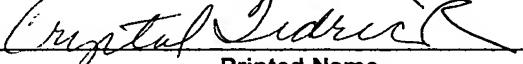
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying document(s) are being

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO		COMPLETE IF KNOWN 10/517545	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	PCT/US03/17994
		Filing Date	June 9, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Niknafs, et al.
Sheet 1 of 1		Attorney Docket No.	FLCZ 2 00362-3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document No. Number-Kind Code (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	AA	US-D381,394	07/1997	Lex, et al.
	AB	Us-1,173,187	02/1916	Hechenbleikner
	AC	US-2,172,714	09/12/1939	Schack, et al.
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	AE	US-4,002,705	01/1997	McKeown
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	AG	US-5,304,423	04/19/1994	Niknafs, et al.
	AH	US-5,757,143	05/1998	Niknafs, et al.
	AI	US-		
	AJ	US-		
	AK	US-		
	AL	US-		
	AM	US-		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T
		Country Code-Number Kind Code (if known)			
	AN	BE811212	04/15/1948	Fouquemberg	
	AO	DE 2425058 A1	12/04/1975	Rauschert	
	AP	GB255,770	07/29/1926	Strack, et al.	
	AQ	GB374,707	06/16/1932	Harrington	
	AR	DE335471	04/04/1921	Wunderlich & Co.	
	AS				
	AT				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T
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	AV		
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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